

THE BOOK OF ROMANS STUDY

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE. THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH
- THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 2:12-24

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

An Unknown Religion

The Gospel of Grace, The Foundation of New Testament Theology
According to Grace By The Argumentation of the Apostle Paul.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Legalism, Faith, Works, Morality, Law, The Spiritual vs. The Carnal Life.

Romans 2:12-16

12 For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law 13 (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; 14 for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, 15 who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) 16 in the Day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel. 17 Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God, 18 and know His will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law, 19 and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, 20 an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law. 21 You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? 22 You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? 23 You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? 24 For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you," as it is written.

Among The Attributes of God – as given in the Holy Bible;
is the fact that the God is first introduced to man as being
The Uncreated Creator.

The Bible teaches us that there are three (3) primary
attributes to His nature; God is Omnipresent, *all-present*.
God is Omnipotent, *all-powerful*. And God is Omniscient, *all-knowing*.

Equally true is the fact that Unknown To God (his nature)
is Evil – evil is Unknown to God.
Sin is certainly An Unknown to God.
Unbelief is Unknown to God.
Hopelessness is Unknown to God.

Therefore, here in romans 2:12-24 we discover three (3) pitfalls that we must recognize, identify, and understand when it comes to what is An Unknown Religion to God, (1) Silence, (2) Universalism and (3) Hypocrisy

John 4:24

God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

An Unknown Religion to God...

1.) Is one of Silence

vs. 12-16

An Unknown Religion to God...

Is One of Silence

1a.) He is speaking to all people

vs. 12-13

Verse 12

12 For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law

The Voice of God is Speaking

“those who have sinned without law” = note the absence of “the” as in “the” law – this speaks to the internal, moral compass or natural law that resides within all of humanity.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He has made everything beautiful in its time. *Also He has put eternity in their hearts*, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.

perish

grk: apollumi; destruction as in being destroyed, falling into the state or condition of ruin, not annihilation - but an ongoing destruction – perishing, passing away, to be dying, an ongoing death of the destroyed

Verse 13

13 (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God,
But the doers of the law will be justified;

Donald Grey Barnhouse

People who think they are Christians merely because they do such things as attend church, listen to sermons, participate in a neighborhood Bible study, listen to Christian music “delude themselves,” says the apostle James. *“for if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror, for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he immediately forgets what kind of person he is.”* The person who is satisfied with a superficial knowledge of God’s word is living a spiritual illusion, thinking he is saved when he is not. By looking in a mirror, he judges himself by himself rather than by the word of God that he knows much about but does not take to heart. His failure to obey what he hears proves he does not believe it nor except it. His disobedience proves he does not trust in the God whose word he hears. And the more he hears it without obeying it the more he piles up guilt against himself in the Day of judgment. Jesus certainly had this on his mind when he preached the conclusion to the Sermon on the Mount...

Matthew 7:24-25

“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. :26 “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: 27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and (the fear of getting sick or testing positive for Covid came and) beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

An Unknown Religion to God...

Is One of Silence

1b.) He is speaking to each of us

vs. 14-15

Verse 14

14 for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law unto themselves

Every single one of us has a standard as to what is right or wrong. Each of us naturally have an ethic that we live by. – that is the fingerprint of God within you.

Verse 15

15 who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)

Galatians 3:24

Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ,
that we might be justified by faith.

An Unknown Religion to God...

Is One of Silence

1c.) He is speaking to you

vs. 16

Verse 16

16 in the Day when God will judge
the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my Gospel.

Psalms 44:21b

For He knows the secrets of the heart.

Psalms 139:1-2

O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down
and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.

There will be varying levels of suffering in hell.

Those who rejected the gospel revealed to them by God's natural witness –
they will be punished based on fairness against how much
they knew - *yet rejected*.

There will be those who knew more about God *but still rejected* him –
even worse punishment for them.

But nothing compares to the degree of punishment that those who have had
access to the gospel, able to read both Old and New Testaments – *and still
rejected* God's full revelation.

Matthew 11:20-24

Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent: 21 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. 23 And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. 24 But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you."

(Remember - Sodom had no bible)

An Unknown Religion to God...

2.) Is one of Universalism

vs. 17-20

An Unknown Religion to God...

Is One of Universalism

2a.) He is calling out a people

vs. 17a

Verse 17a

: 17 Indeed you are
called a Jew, and rest on the law,

Isaiah 43:10-11

"You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me. 11 I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior.

An Unknown Religion to God...

Is One of Universalism

2b.) He is calling out our responsibility

vs. 17b-19a

17b and you make your boast in God, 18 and know His will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law, 19a and are confident

The Blood Covenant vs. The Law of Stone

>>>>>>>>> Which Came First? <<<<<<<<<<

Was it the chicken or the egg?

Exodus 12:13

Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Exodus 24:8

And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you."

Leviticus 17:11

For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.'

Hebrews 9:22

According to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

Matthew 21:42-43

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: (Ps.118:22) 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD'S doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes'? " :43 "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation(s) (gentiles) bearing the fruits of it.

An Unknown Religion to God...

Is One of Universalism

2c.) He is calling out our claim

vs. 19b-20

:19b that you yourself are (1) a guide to the blind, (2) a light to those who are in darkness, 20 (3) an instructor of the foolish, (4) a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law.

Think of It...

The most religious people in the world who refuse to come to the rescuing love and power of God through Jesus Christ – for them is reserved the worse part of hell.

An Unknown Religion to God...

3.) Is one of Hypocrisy

vs. 21-24

An Unknown Religion to God...

Is One of Hypocrisy

3a.) He knows what we know

vs. 21

Verse 21

21 You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself?
You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal?

The more we know – the more we are accountable for.

The Graphic Imagery of the Screen Actors Guild of the Roman World.

Hypocrite grk: hypocrisies; the English word is dissimulation, to playact, or to be or to do what is not true, to act out a life or lie in order to deceive, to play the hypocrite.

Galatians 2:11-13

Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; 12 for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. 13 And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

<https://resoundingthefaith.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/hypocrisy-1.jpg>

https://cdn.abcotvs.com/dip/images/9200554_123020-ss-mardi-gras.jpg?w=1600

http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_frpBN4nZJks/TNFY0jT1Mdl/AAAAAAAAAFw/jEcxoSkM224/s400/comedytragedy%5B1%5D.jpg

Is One of Hypocrisy

3b.) He knows what we do

vs. 22-23

Verse 22-23

22 You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery?
You who abhor idols, do you rob temples

This is **Paul calling them out** on a well-known, historical issue in his day. In Roma many of the Jews had prospered and many had maidservants and to have them so conveniently near – well, that must have been ok with God.

Also, they had become wealthy by trading – idols where a big deal in those days and the Jew was playing the role of the broker between pagan sellers and pagan buyers of idols –

Matthew 23:13

"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.

Woe grk: ouai; an expression of grief or denunciation, a shout of damnation, condemnation.

Matthew 23:15

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

"An Unknown Religion to God"

will always be a man-made religion that migrates toward tyranny and exploitation. (Wolves)

Matthew 7:20-23

Therefore by their fruits you will know them. :21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?" 23 And then I will declare to them, "I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!"

Is One of Hypocrisy

3c.) He knows what we are

vs. 23-24

Verse 23-24

23 You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? 24 For “the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,” as it is written.

Paul here quoting Isaiah 52:5

“the Name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,”

As He indicts them of {misrepresenting God}

Matthew 23:27-28

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. 28 Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

The Saddest Verses in the Bible

Genesis 3:8-9

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. :9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Adam, where are you?”

Jeremiah 2:5

Thus says the LORD: “What injustice have your fathers found in Me, That they have gone far from Me, Have followed idols, And have become idolaters?

John 1:10-11

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

John 11:35

Jesus wept.

End of Study